

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-15 as follows. Kindly withdraw claims 16-23 and add new claims 24 and 25 as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A strand-form vehicle seal, equipped with a flexible reinforcement that defines a longitudinal direction and has [[with]] a generally U-shaped [[or C-form]] cross section or one derived therefrom, in planes generally normal to said longitudinal direction ~~characterized in that the~~, wherein said flexible reinforcement forms a strand of at least two different substances, ~~which is comprised of~~ including first individual sections (1) of a nonmetallic, generally soft-elastic material together with second individual sections (2) of another nonmetallic, however dimensionally stable and rigid, material that is harder than the material of said first sections, with the individual sections (1, 2) of the reinforcement being disposed along said longitudinal direction intermittently alternating one after the other.

2. (Currently amended) A strand-form vehicle seal as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that the~~ wherein said first sections (1) ~~of the nonmetallic, however soft-elastic material,~~ have a different ~~or the same~~ length as ~~[[the]]~~ said second sections (2) ~~of the nonmetallic, however dimensionally stable and rigid, material.~~

3. (Currently amended) A strand-form vehicle seal as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the lengths of ~~[[the]]~~ said at least one of said sections (1) of the nonmetallic, however soft elastic, material and/or the lengths of the and sections (2) of the nonmetallic, however dimensionally stable and rigid, material vary within the strand.

4. (Currently amended) A strand-form vehicle seal as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the nonmetallic, however soft elastic, material forming said first sections is a thermoplastic elastomer.

5. (Currently amended) A strand-form vehicle seal as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the nonmetallic, however dimensionally stable and rigid, material forming said second sections is a synthetic material.

6. (Currently amended) A strand-form vehicle seal as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that the~~ wherein said reinforcement strand is ensheathed entirely or partially with one or several soft or synthetic materials (3).

7. (Currently amended) A strand-form vehicle seal as claimed in claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the additional soft or ensheathing synthetic materials (3) enclose entirely or partially at least one hollow volume.

8. (Currently amended) A method for the production of a strand-form vehicle seal, which is equipped with a flexible reinforcement that defines a longitudinal direction and has with U- or C-form a generally U-shaped cross section or one derived therefrom, ~~characterized in that the~~ in plane generally normal to said longitudinal direction, wherein the method comprises the steps of forming said flexible reinforcement is formed as a strand of at least two different substances, ~~[[in that]]~~ one a nonmetallic, generally soft-elastic material ~~is formed out in forming first individual sections (1) together with and~~ another nonmetallic, however dimensionally stable and rigid, material ~~[[in]]~~ forming second individual sections (2) and being harder than the material of said first sections, with the individual first and second sections (1, 2) intermittently being disposed alternating one after the other.

9. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 8, ~~characterized in that the~~ wherein said reinforcement strand is formed ~~[[out in]]~~ by an extrusion process.

10. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 8, ~~characterized in that the~~ wherein said reinforcement strand is formed ~~[[out in]]~~ by an injection molding process.

11. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 9, ~~characterized in that as~~ wherein the nonmetallic, ~~however soft-elastic,~~ material forming said first sections is selected a thermoplastic elastomer.

12. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 9, ~~characterized in that as the~~
~~wherein said nonmetallic, however dimensionally stable and rigid, material~~ forming said
second sections is selected a synthetic material ~~is selected~~.

13. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 8, ~~characterized in that the~~
~~wherein said first~~ sections (1) ~~of the nonmetallic, however soft elastic, material~~ have a
~~different or the same~~ length as ~~[[the]]~~ said second sections (2) ~~of the nonmetallic,~~
~~however dimensionally stable and rigid, material~~.

14. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 8, ~~characterized in~~
~~that the~~ wherein said lengths of ~~[[the]]~~ said at least one of said sections (1) of the
~~nonmetallic, however soft elastic, material and/or the lengths of the~~ and sections (2) of
~~the nonmetallic, however dimensionally stable and rigid, material~~ vary within the strand.

15. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 8, ~~characterized in that the~~
~~wherein said~~ reinforcement strand is ensheathed entirely or partially with one or a further
soft or synthetic materials (3).

16. (Withdrawn) Device for the production of a strand-form vehicle seal, which is
equipped with a flexible reinforcement with U- or C-form cross section or one derived
therefrom, with the reinforcement strand being formed of at least two different substances
which are disposed as individual sections intermittently, in each instance alternating one
after the other, comprising at least two extruders (6, 7) and a common injection head (8),

characterized in that between the two extruders (6, 7) and the common injection head (8) an intermittence device (9) is disposed which divides the strands (10, 11) of the two extruders (6, 7) and presses the divided extrudate compositions alternating continuously one after the other into the common injection head (8).

17. (Withdrawn) Device as claimed in claim 16, characterized in that the intermittence device (9) is comprised of two rotors (12, 13) which have at their circumference recesses (14) and between these recesses (14) projections (15), with the projections (15) of the one rotor (12, 13) extending in each instance into the recesses (14) of the other rotor (13, 12),
that the geometric form of the projections (15) and of the recesses (14) is selected such that the circumference of the recess (14) into which it extends, rolls out on the circumference of the recess (14) and, in the process, reduces the volume in this recess (14) between the circumference of the recess (14) and the circumference of the projection (15), and that in the housing (17) a stationary opening (18) is provided leading to the injection head (8) at the site of the chamber formed by the inner circumference of the recess (14) and the outer circumference of the projection (15) for the discharge of the extrudate from this chamber continuously changing in its volume.

18. (Withdrawn) Device as claimed in claim 17, characterized in that the flanks of the chamber have involute form.

19. (Withdrawn) Device as claimed in claim 17, characterized in that each rotor (12, 13) has its own drive.
20. (Withdrawn) Device as claimed in claim 17, characterized in that the intermittence device (9) comprises at least one bypass (19) which can be actuated on and off for a sequential actuating on and off of the soft and/or hard component.
21. (Withdrawn) Device as claimed in claim 17, characterized in that the rotors (12, 13) can be exchanged pairwise against others with a different fill volume.
22. (Withdrawn) Device as claimed in claim 17, characterized in that the rotors are equipped with the same or different chamber volumes.
23. (Withdrawn) Device as claimed in claim 17, characterized in that the rotors are supported in friction or roller bearings.
24. (New) A strand-form vehicle seal as claimed in claim 1, wherein said first sections (1) have the same length as said second sections (2).
25. (New) A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein said first sections (1) have the same length as said second sections (2).